

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 083170
ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CPR-01 /017 R

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APPROVED BY S/CPR:RGOOKIN
EUR/EE:DJOHNSON

-----066954 010018Z /66

R 311917Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS STATE 083170

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, AFSP, YO

SUBJECT: U.S. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ACT

REF: BELGRADE 2066

1. FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HEARINGS ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ACT (HR 7819) AND OTHER PENDING BILLS ON IMMUNITY, INITIALLY SCHEDULED FOR LAST MONTH, ARE INDEFINITELY POSTPONED DURING DEBATE ON CANAL TREATIES. WE UNDERSTAND COMMITTEE FAVORS ACTION THIS SESSION ALONG LINES OF HR 7819, COPY OF WHICH BEING POUCHED. DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THE VARIOUS BILLS HAVE BEEN SOLICITED BY COGNIZANT COMMITTEES OF 95TH CONGRESS, AND CLOSE CONSULTATION WILL, WE BELIEVE, CONTINUE THROUGHOUT LEGISLATIVE PROCESS.

2. YUGOSLAV CONCERNS OVER HR 7819 HAVE BEEN CONVEYED TO DEPARTMENT AND CENTER AROUND REQUIREMENT CONTAINED IN SECTION 57 OF DRAFT BILL (HR 7819) THAT A DIPLOMAT FILE A MOTION OR WRITTEN APPLICATION IN ORDER TO SECURE DISMISSAL OF AN ACTION ON IMMUNITY GROUNDS. YUGOSLAV EMBASSY EX-UNCLASSIFIED

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PRESSED FEAR THAT THIS REQUIREMENT WOULD RESULT IN CONTINUAL HARASSMENT OF DIPLOMATS AND A CONSEQUENT DISRUPTION OF OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS. SINCE GOY DEMARCHE, DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN FURTHER EXAMINATION TO THIS ISSUE AND HAS TENTATIVELY

DECIDED TO PROPOSE TO SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD PERMIT A "MOTION OR SUGGESTION" TO

BE FILED ON BEHALF OF THE INDIVIDUAL "OR OTHERWISE AS PERMITTED BY LAW OR APPLICABLE RULE OF PROCEDURE." THUS, IF THIS PROPOSAL IS ADOPTED, GOY OBJECTIONS WOULD CARRY LESS WEIGHT. COOPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, LEGISLATIVE BILL, COMMITTEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE083170
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HFHAMWELL:DPW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780141-0287
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978032/aaaaabgy.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0d4f81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN L
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BELGRADE 2066
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3187153
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ACT
TAGS: PDIP, AFSP, YO, US
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0d4f81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014